

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph number [0010], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0010] Conventionally, a high pressure steam turbine has a nozzle box positioned at an inlet side of the steam; however, it is designed to maintain its strength when the steam is at a temperature of 1050 to 1100 degrees Fahrenheit. It is difficult for a conventional nozzle box to maintain its strength with steam at a temperature of 1300 degrees ~~or above~~ Fahrenheit or above. Further, for such high temperature steam, a radiation problem is to be considered. When adopting steam at about 1300 degrees Fahrenheit, a heat transfer by radiation is not negligible because [[a]] the temperature of outer surfaces of the nozzle box becomes high. The radiation heat will undesirably heat up constituent components, such as a casing and a turbine rotor, that are provided around the nozzle box.

Please replace paragraph number [0011], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0011] Accordingly, an advantage of an aspect of the present invention is to provide a steam turbine that can effectively operate with the steam at the higher temperatures, while maintaining the strength of turbine constituent components despite the high ~~steam~~ temperature of the steam.

Please replace paragraph number [0048], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0048] As mentioned above, according to this embodiment, the nozzle box is effectively cooled by the cooling steam and the cover plates shield a heat transfer, such as a convection or a radiation, from the high temperature steam. Therefore, the steam turbine may effectively operate with the steam at the higher temperatures, while maintaining the strength of turbine constituent components, such as turbine rotor, despite the high ~~steam~~ temperature of the steam.